would also seek agreement from the US Congress to adjust U.S. laws and policies, and the United States will work with friends and allies to adjust international regimes to enable full civil nuclear energy cooperation and trade with India, including but not limited to expeditious consideration of fuel supplies for safeguarded nuclear reactors at Tarapur.

The implementation of the understanding contained in the Joint Statement of July 18, 2005 would be helpful in resumption of India securing access to full international cooperation in civilian nuclear energy, thereby strengthening energy security.

The implementation of the July 18 Joint Statement would be guided fully and entirely by the commitments reflected in the Joint Statement only. A Working Group to this end, headed by the Foreign Secretary on the Indian side and the Under Secretary for Political Affairs of the State Department on the US side, has been set up and it held the first meeting in Delhi on October 21, 2005. It has been made very clear to the US, including at the meeting of the Working Group that our commitments and obligations would only be those that have been spelt out in the July 18 Joint Statement. Each side has expressed its perspective on next steps. A road map in this regard is as yet evolving. The position spelt out by the Prime Minister, in his statement in Parliament on July 29, 2005 that our commitments would be conditional upon, and reciprocal to the US fulfilling its side of this understanding, makes it clear that we expect a close correlation between actions to be taken by the US and India, and that Indian actions will be contingent at every stage on actions taken by the other side. The two sides are working together closely to implement the understanding at the earliest.

Impact of boom in the mobile industry

*32. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that after so much boom in the mobile industry, the network for these mobiles is creating problem;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to cope up with this problem?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN): (a) to (c) With the expansion of subscriber base, mobile networks are to be upgraded by various service providers to meet Quality of Service (QoS) standards. This is a continuous process in terms of reengineering of network by addition of more Base Transceivers Station (BTS), adopting techniques such as installation of boosters and adoption of micro cell architecture. It is noticed that network upgradation exercise is not commensurate with the increase in subscriber base which *inter-alia* include installation of additional BTS.

The Government has also taken steps to simplify procedures for clearance of sites for installation of towers apart from releasing more spectrum by co-ordination with existing users.

Draft maritime policy

*33. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether draft maritime policy was circulated for suggestions and opinion;

(b) whether Water Transport Workers Federation of India has opposed the policy on the ground that the large scale induction of private sector in ports would weaker the country's sovereignty and independence; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to address the issues?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) The Department of Shipping has elicited response from various stakeholders on the draft Policy for the Maritime Sector (Ports, Merchant Shipping and IWT) through a process of consultation including circulation of the draft Policy, interactive sessions with stakeholders and display of the draft policy on its website. While submitting its suggestions on the draft Policy, interactive sessions with stakeholders and display of the draft policy Water Transport Workers' Federation of India has, *inter alia,* commented that both Shipping and Port Sectors in India are under the control of foreign shipping interests and that the Maritime Policy must endeavour to change the situation by evolving appropriate policies.

(c) The Government is fully committed to protecting the interests of the Indian maritime sector. Participation of the private sector in the major